

July 9, 2020

Dear Wardlaw+Hartridge Families,

I am sharing a draft of a [document](#) regarding our planning for school reopening in the fall. We will continue to refine our plans, but I wanted to provide you with an update on progress thus far. We will update you further in the coming weeks as we add more details to the plan. Our goals are:

- to ensure safe and healthy conditions throughout the school
- to provide a program of such flexibility that we are ready for any changes in local conditions that will affect school operations
- to deliver programs in any mode – in-person, blended, or distance learning – of the highest quality and value

Most of you completed the survey we sent out regarding your intentions for the fall, which I greatly appreciate. If you have not, you still can. We have collated the numerous questions you have posed, most of which will be answered through the details of our plans. We have received some questions regarding contracts and tuition in light of the pandemic and will endeavor to answer those in a subsequent letter.

We enter every school year filled with hope and energy, and we'll do that again this year. However, it is important to acknowledge that the uncertainties and challenges posed by the pandemic, and amplified by other circumstances in our society, weigh on all of us. Reopening school will not be as easy or familiar as in past years, and we will need some time to get in a groove. We will rely on your patience and kindness as we make our way forward, and you can rely on ours. We will all need to make special efforts in our organization of daily tasks, our attention to details, and our communication with one another.

I hope you are enjoying a restful summer and continuing to pay close attention to the things you need to do to remain safe and well. I had the good fortune to find myself beyond the reach of the internet for a few days last week. I read an entire book (which did not used to be a notable achievement) and took a beautiful hike with most of my children. I recommend it, or similar opportunities that appeal to you, with great enthusiasm. Now, I am joining all my colleagues in online professional development aimed at enhancing our ability to design and build curriculum for the specific demands of distance and blended learning. Our work this summer will help us serve all of our students better in the coming school year.

Be well,
Andy

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